

the life of a man: but to counterfet dying when a man thereby liueth, is to be no counterfet, but the true and perfect image of life indeed. The better part of valour is discretion, in the which better part I haue saued my life. Zounds I am afraid of this gunpowder Percy, though he be dead: how if he should cōterfet too and rise? by my faith, I am afraid hee would proue the better counterfet: therefore ile make him sure, yea and ile sweare I kild him. Why may not he rise as well as I? nothing confutes me but eyes, and no body sees me: therefore sirra, with a new wound in your thigh, come you along with me.

*He takes vp Hotspur on his backe, Enter Prince and*

*John of Lancaster.*

*Pr.* Come, brother John, ful brauely hast thou flesh't  
Thy mayden sword.

*John.* But soft, whom haue we heare?

Did you not tell me, this fat man was dead?

*Prin.* I did, I saw him dead,  
Breathles and bleeding on the ground. Art thou aliue?  
Or is it fantasie that playes vpon our eyesight?

I prethee speake, we will not trust our eyes

Without our eares, thou art not what thou seem'st.

*Fal.* No, that's certaine, I am not a double man: but if I be  
not lacke Halstallfe, then am I a lacke: there is Percie, if your  
father will doe me any honour, so: if not, let him kill the next  
Percie himselfe: I looke to be either Earle or Duke, I can as-  
sure you.

*Prin.* Why, Percie I kild my selfe, and saw thee dead.

*Fal.* Didst thou? Lord, Lord, how this world is giuen to ly-  
ing. I graunt you, I was downe, and out of breath, and so was he,  
but we rose both at an instant, and fought a long houre by  
Shrewesburie clocke, if I may be beleeu'd so: if not, let them  
that should rewarde valour, beare the sinne vpon their owne  
heads. Ile take it vpon my death, I gaue him this wound in the  
thigh: if the man were aliue, and would denie it, Zounds I would  
make him eate a piece of my sword.

*John.* This is the strangest tale, that euer I heard.

*Prin.* This is the strangest fellow, brother John,  
Come bring your luggage nobly on your backe,

*For*

For my part, if a lie may doe thee grace, I will lie for thee.  
Ile giuld it with the happiest termes I haue.

*Aretraine is sounded, and the trumpet sounds retreat.*

*Prin.* The Trumpet sounds retreat, the day is ours.

Come, brother, let vs to the highest of the field,  
To see what friends are liuing, who are dead.

*Fal.* Ile follow, as they say, for reward. Hee that rewardes me,  
God rewar d him. If I doe growe great, ile growe lesse, for ile  
purge and leaue Sacke, and lue cleanelly as a noble man  
should do.

*The Trumpets sound. Enter the King, Prince of Wales, Lord  
John of Lancaster, Earle of Westmerland, with Worcester,  
and Vernon, prisoners.*

*King.* Thus euer did rebellion find rebuke.

I'll spighte Worcester, did not we lend grace,  
Pardon, and termes of loue to all of you?  
And wouldst thou turne our offers contrary,  
Misuse the tenor of thy kinmans trust?  
Three knights vpon our partie flaine to day,  
A noble Earle and many a creature else.  
Had bene aliue this houre,

If like a Christian thou hadst truly borne  
Betwixt our armies true intelligence.

*Wor.* What I haue done, my safety vrg'd mee to:  
And I imbrace this fortune patiently,  
Since not to be auoyded it falls on me.

*King.* Beare Worcester to the death, and Vernon too;  
Other offenders we will pause vpon.  
How goes the field?

*Prin.* The noble Scot, Lord Douglas, when he saw  
The fortune of the day quite turn'd from him,  
The noble Percie flaine, and all his men  
Vpon the foote of feare, fled with the rest:  
And falling from a hill, he was so brus'd,  
That the pursuers tooke him. At my tent  
The Douglas is: and I beseech your grace  
I may dispose of him.

*King.*